

OGC 73-0898

22 May 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: Richard C. Tufaro

SUBJECT : Suggestion for Permanent Chairman of ICRC

1. You recall you invited us to suggest people for consideration as permanent chairman of the Committee. We recommend that Dr. Rhoads be so named.

2. There would seem to be several arguments for selecting Dr. Rhoads, quite aside from his high order of competence and his professional qualifications. As Archivist of the United States, Dr. Rhoads' departmental or parochial interests are quite consistent with, and indeed would enhance one of the major objectives of the Order, namely to declassify and make available as much government information as is possible. Thus, his position should do much to counteract whatever significance there may be in the fact that he perhaps is not a well-known figure. Moreover, the experience and facilities of the Archives should be particularly helpful to the Committee, having in mind that the management of vast quantities of documents is a complicated and difficult business. Further, the selection of a more prominent person likely would suffer some of the disadvantages which Ambassador Eisenhower's appointment involved. A prominent figure might well serve for a short time only. He is apt to be engaged in other things and devote only part time to his government appointment and possibly he would live elsewhere, coming to Washington only for the monthly meetings. And finally, it would seem likely, as was mentioned at the May meeting, that ICRC will be permanently lodged in OMB. A permanent chairman occupying a senior departmental position as does Dr. Rhoads would fit nicely within the concept of ICRC reporting to OMB.

STAT

Lawrence R. Houston
General Counsel

cc:

Orig - Addse

1 - OGC Subj: Security E.O. 11652 ICRC

1 - RHL Signer

STAT

ICRC